1. Fish curing
2. Development of ready-to-serve products like fish cutlets, fish wafers etc.

The CFTR1 had developed a mini dal mill as well as technologies for ready-to-serve products and for increasing the shelf-life.

The IVR1 had developed technology to be adopted by small scale entrepreneurs with considerable manual input for meat products. Preparation of chicken nuggets and chicken patties on cottage scale basis are some of the technologies developed, which are labour intensive.

(d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its' Plan Schemes gives 100% assistance for R&D projects for developing technology as also for HRD component for training the entrepreneurs. During the last three years the total expenditure on the R&D scheme works out to Rs. 18.07 crores.

Integrated Food Law for commodity boards

3392. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of moving commodity boards from the Ministry of Commerce to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, to prepare a modem integrated food law, and to meet related requirements; and

(b) if so, what is the progress made so far in this regard and what is the time-frame by when such a law would come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) and (b)The issue of attaching the Commodity Boards which are presently under Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce etc. with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been taken up. In order to formulate a modem integrated food law and to meet related requirements, a Group of Ministers has been constituted. Since the process of consultation among different Ministries of the G v :mment of India is involved, no time frame could be indicated.

Investment in FPIs

3393. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) functioning in the country, State-wise;